Thereby certify that this correspondence, Apages, is being forwarded to the Commissioner For Patents via Faccimale Transmission to Technology Center 2800 at 703-872-9319 after receipt of a final Office Action on the merits, but within two months of the Office Action date, on Detailed, 2003.

Tammie B. McFarland

Date of Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

> REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. sec. 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 2, 2003, the following faxed amendment(s) and/or remark(s) are submitted. Applicants respectfully request that this reply be entered into the record as a substantive reply to the outstanding Office Action.

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